

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Washington 25, D.C.

Office of the Director

5 March 1951

The Honorable  
The Secretary of Defense  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

One of the important problems facing this agency is the development of a Central Intelligence Agency career service. It is increasingly apparent that discipline and training such as provided by the military services are almost essential in the initial stages of development of selected career individuals.

The military services could aid immeasurably in the development of such a career program by accepting each year approximately 150 college graduates to be selected by agreement between CIA and the service for (1) a period of basic training; (2) military education including intelligence, languages and attendance at officer candidate schools; (3) field or sea service. The total period of service would range from 21 months to three years.

Upon completion of military service, each individual selected and trained under this policy would be made available to the Central Intelligence Agency either through assignment in an active military status or through release from active service for transfer to the Central Intelligence Agency.

This program is explained more fully in the attached annex. If you approve this or a similar policy statement, I recommend that the details of implementation be worked out directly between this agency and the Military Departments.

Sincerely,

/s/

Walter B. Smith  
Director

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